

DISABILITY
NO HANDICAP



REVIEW OF THE
**SOUTHWARK
DISABLEMENT
ASSOCIATION**
1981-1986

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SDA

SOUTHWARK DISABLEMENT ASSOCIATION

ROOM 48, AYLESBURY DAY CENTRE,
BOYSON ROAD, SE17 2BA
TELEPHONE: 701 1391

PRESIDENT

The Worshipful The Mayor of Southwark

CHAIRMAN

Michael Pearson

VICE-CHAIR

Josie Reilly

TREASURER

Phyllis Sheere

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kate Ellis ■ Mary Reardon ■ Margaret McNally ■ Grace Huxstep
Ethel Marshall ■ Ruby Brooksby ■ John Taylor ■ Betty Etherington
Noran Foley ■ Wendy Oddy ■ Amy Wallis

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

■ Councillor Quennell

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Councillor Pam Cooper ■ Rosalyn Porter

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Maggie Pope, and Doug Adams (since November 1985) representing the Director of
Southwark Social Services

Dr Davidson representing the District Medical Officer

STAFF

Mary Marshall *DIRECTOR* ■ Steven Thoms *SPORTS AND LEISURE WORKER*
Helen Davies (and since March 1986) Marilyn Little *ADVICE AND RESOURCE*
WORKERS ■ Maurine Shbero *ADMIN SECRETARY*(full time since January 1986)

THE ROLE OF THE SDA

The Southwark Disablement Association is concerned with all disabilities both physical and mental including the deaf and visually handicapped. We are an umbrella organisation for all voluntary groups working with and for people with disabilities in the London Borough of Southwark. We have a voluntary management committee made up of representatives from these groups as well as individual members who direct and support the work done by the staff.

For a small subscription membership is open to interested individuals or groups. We aim to encourage co-operation between people working in the field of disability, to set up consumer groups, to monitor developments and to strive always to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities by pressing for the gaps in provision to be filled. We provide information and advice to people with disabilities, their carers and families, together with referral work from and to professional organisations and agencies.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

The Southwark Disablement Association is an equal opportunities agency and in its provision of services and employment practices strives to combat all forms of discrimination on the grounds of disability, age, colour, creed, gender, marital status, race, or sexual orientation.

FRONT COVER PHOTO (CHRIS JONES) Vice-Chair Josie Reilly and
Executive Committee member Noran Foley working in the SDA office.

FOREWORD

The inaugural meeting of the Southwark Disablement Association was held on 23rd November, 1978. It was felt that there was a need for an advice and information centre specifically for people with disabilities. Funding was sought, and an urban aid grant was received in 1981. The office was set up in a room in the Aylesbury Day Centre, provided by Southwark Council. The five year grant covers the cost of two full time and one part time post i.e. the Director, Advice and Resource Worker and Admin Secretary, and is due to expire in March 1987.

We were able to employ a Sports and Leisure Worker in April 1984 through a grant from the GLC. This post will be funded by the London Borough of Southwark from April 1987 onwards.

In the autumn of 1985, Southwark Council gave a grant to employ a second Advice and Resource Worker and a further part time Admin. Secretary.

The Southwark Disablement Association has established itself as a vital source of advice and information in the borough and has steadfastly carried out its purpose to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in Southwark as this report will show.

LONDON BOROUGH
OF SOUTHWARK
SOUTHWARK
COLLECTION

SOUTHWARK COLLECTION	
Cat. ✓	Date 4.8.88
Class P 362 SDA	

I was privileged to be elected as Chairman of the Southwark Disablement Association at the Annual General Meeting last October and have found the position both stimulating and rewarding. The Executive Committee has met regularly during the last year and it is good to know that out of the 14 elected officers and committee members eight are people with disabilities including myself. We were pleased to co-opt another disabled person recently to represent the Southwark Disablement Action Group. It is vital that disabled people are involved in the decision making of their organisation.



Michael Pearson

The aim of this report is to show the past, present and future work of the Southwark Disablement Association. I hope you will find the contents both interesting and informative. We are still waiting for the Charities Commission to register us as a charity and to become a Company Limited by Guarantee.

Our membership figures are maintained with a good percentage of our membership made up of individual people with disabilities. New members are welcome to join for a cost of £1 per individual and £5 for groups.

Since the last Annual General Meeting we have participated in the Christmas Carol Service in Southwark Cathedral and the Sports and Fun Weekend in Southwark Park in June. At our half yearly meeting we showed the Greater London Association of Disabled People's film, "A Sporting Chance" which included some film of a local sports club. The summer shopping trip did not take place as planned due to lack of people wanting to go, but we did arrange "mini-trips" in the daytime to cater for those who had applied. Our meetings with club leaders and representatives from local voluntary organisations have continued. Fund raising has become very important to enable us to put into operation all our plans and will continue to be so in the future. We organised a Spring Fayre in April and many local clubs had stalls and it proved quite financially successful to all concerned. We took part in the Alexandra Rose Day in June for the first time and we are very grateful to all those who took time and effort to collect for us. In July the Calton Singers put on a concert in aid of the Southwark Disablement Association in the Aylesbury Day Centre and this proved a very popular and enjoyable evening and raised £115.44. The Southwark Wheelchair Dancing Club also sent us a donation from the raffle at their recent open evening. We are very appreciative of all this support.

However, we do still have real fears for our future funding. The cuts in the annual Urban Aid grants do not allow us to be optimistic about our application this year. Our present grant expires in March 1987 and covers the salaries of our Director, one Advice Worker, and part time Admin Secretary and our running costs. As you will see from the reports which follow the Southwark Disablement Association has served and is continuing to serve a vital need and it is therefore essential to maintain its full complement of staff and to be securely funded.

In closing I must give my thanks to the staff; Mary, Steven, Maureen, Helen and Marilyn for all their hard work, to the volunteers who give unstintingly of their time and energy both in and out of the office and to the Executive Committee for their support of the Association and involvement with its work. We hope many more disabled people will seek greater involvement in the work of the Southwark Disablement Association in the coming year.

PUBLICITY

Our traffic light posters, designed and printed in our first year, have become easily recognised throughout the borough. Since those first posters, we have produced a leaflet on our work especially the Advice Service and another on sports and leisure activities. The leaflets and posters will soon be updated.

Our Handbook of Clubs and Local Organisations has become a useful source of information on social clubs and local groups able to help. This is currently being reprinted. The Guide to Services and Benefits in Southwark for People with Disabilities was very well received by disabled people and professionals alike. It is an excellent guide to local council and health services, DHSS benefits and advice agencies but now needs updating — something we shall do as soon as funds allow.

We are grateful to the Southwark Council for financial grants which have allowed us to produce all this material. We have continued to produce a newsletter. It is now printed professionally and distributed quarterly. It contains information and news of interest to our readers but we should like to see more contributions from recipients.

Information packs have been prepared and distributed and we have taken our display board to exhibitions arranged



Maureen Shbero

by the Community Health Council, Age Concern and Nunhead Forum. We will be distributing our updated material as widely as possible and particularly hope to contact more younger disabled people.

ADVICE AND INFORMATION

The importance of an advice and information service for people with disabilities and their carers has always been recognised by the SDA and it has, therefore, always been part of the service we offer in the borough.

Advice is given in the office during the 3 advice sessions and over the telephone throughout the day as well as on home visits to people unable to visit the office. Enquiries come too from workers in other advice agencies, social services, DHSS, etc.

Helen Davies



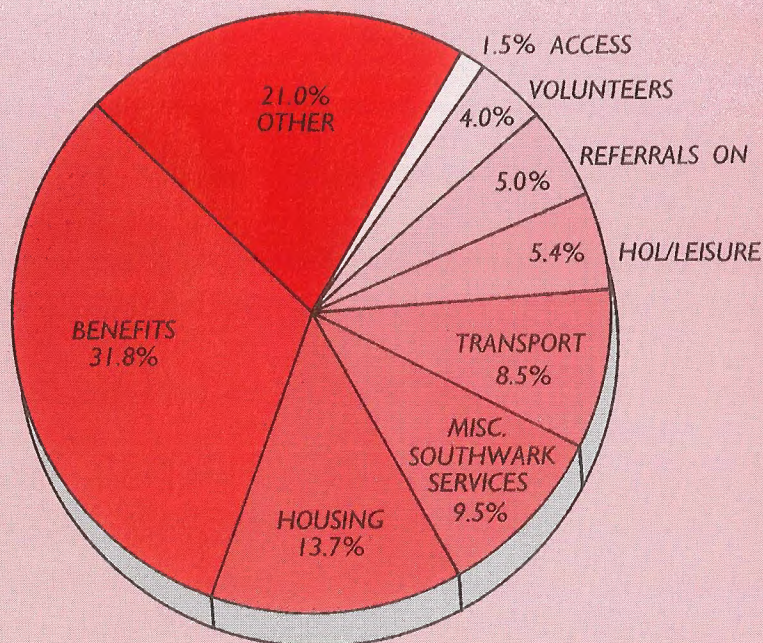
The Advice Service is kept extremely busy and demand has grown steadily throughout the five years as people satisfied with our service have spread the word to their friends and neighbours. Demand has also increased as statutory services have become increasingly stretched and reduced.

Enquiries too have become more complex and more time has to be spent now with each individual. Many benefits are still underclaimed and 'take-up' has become an important area of our work. When we interview clients we check, therefore, they are claiming all they are entitled to and we have participated in take-up campaigns publicised in the media. There has, therefore, been considerable change and development in the advice work and as our response to the needs of clients has become more effective, the number of clients using our service has considerably increased.

Looking at our caseload for 85/86, we can see the majority of initial enquiries were dealt with by telephone. The following figures show the method of clients initial enquiries for this period.

PERSONAL CALLER	146
TELEPHONE ENQUIRY	358
LETTER	68
TOTAL	572
N/B NOT KNOWN	+ 13
	585

We advise on a wide range of problems as this chart shows:



Benefit enquiries are the largest category of work. Many disabled people have to turn to means-tested Supplementary Benefit for extra help to cover the higher expenses they incur through their disability e.g. diet, wear and tear on clothing etc. A lot of our work is advising these people to claim for additional requirements as they are frequently underclaimed. Mobility Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Severe Disablement Allowance are all examples of other benefits we help people to claim and when necessary we go on to prepare an appeal, review or represent clients at tribunals.

Housing problems make up the next largest category. People with disabilities who have 100 medical points (the maximum) are now frequently waiting 3 to 4 years for a

transfer to more suitable accommodation. Continuing sales of Council stock, little new building and priority to homeless people mean that the situation is not likely to improve in the future.

Liaising with and referring to Social Services on behalf of clients is another major role. Most referrals are to the Rehabilitation Service or Home Help Service. We are also actively helping people to claim their statutory rights from Social Services as laid down in the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, for example claiming financial assistance towards telephone costs.

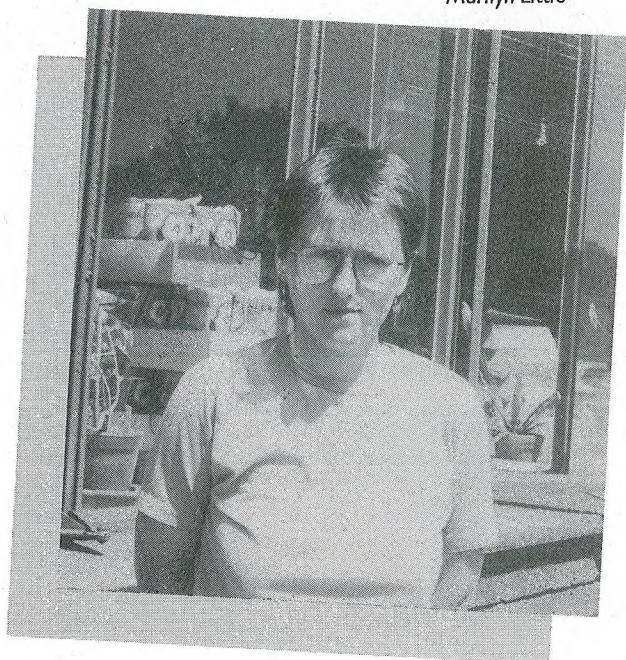
Pointedly transport is another large category overall. These queries may be comparatively simple enquiries about Dial-A-Ride or Taxicard or urgent requests for help in obtaining transport or complaints about services.

There is, as well, a steady flow of general enquiries and referrals from other advice workers and colleagues in both voluntary and statutory organisations. In return we refer people to other agencies where appropriate; for example for legal or consumer advice.

OUTREACH is another important role for the S.D.A. Our advice worker has, for the last 2 to 3 years, been available at the Peckham Citizens Advice Bureau on a regular basis to see people with disabilities. We have in August 1986 stopped these sessions in order to do similar sessions in other places where there is no advice provision. We will be commencing a session at the Paxton Green Health Centre, which is near the Kingswood Estate, SE21 in September and are looking at the possibility of going to the Rotherhithe and/or East Dulwich areas. Our thanks go to the Peckham C.A.B. for all their help and support to us in allowing us the kind use of their premises.

We hope in the future to involve more people with disabilities in the advice giving service we offer. They will be trained and as soon as we get larger premises their role can be developed. The need for offices with a separate waiting/reception area and interview rooms is an urgent

Marilyn Little



one. Our statistics (below) for the year January-December, 1985, clearly show the volume of work which the SDA is coping with in very cramped conditions.

PHONE CALLS RECEIVED	4,309
PHONE CALLS MADE	2,394
GPO MAIL SENT	3,810
INTERNAL MAIL SENT (to Council departments)	1,717
MAIL RECEIVED	2,936
CALLERS TO OFFICE	1,775

We have built up a library of information on a range of subjects relating to disability and regularly receive magazines

and newsletters etc. from other organisations. Anyone interested is welcome to come along and use the information we have. We also have three wheelchairs for hire on short term loan for a small fee and these are much in demand.

The Advice Centre operates from:
SOUTHWARK DISABLEMENT OFFICE
TELEPHONE 01-701 1391

- Mondays 1.30-3.30pm
- Wednesdays 10.30am-12.30pm
- Fridays 1.30-3.30pm

VOLUNTEERS

S.D.A. has been helped by many volunteers in the past year, both in the office and in the community. Anyone who telephones S.D.A. will usually have their call answered by one of our volunteer reception/telephone staff. Our thanks go to Josie Reilly, Noran Foley, Pamela Ezikpe, Rosalyn Porter and Wendy Oddy. With three lines to answer and telephones which are constantly busy, theirs is a demanding and sometimes thankless task. Rosalyn also undertakes regular typing, also Gwen Redmayne helped provide cover when Maureen, our Administration Secretary, was on leave and Julia Penfound regularly does typing work for the Taxicard Users Committee.

Other volunteers who help the S.D.A. office in a variety of ways are Mary Reardon, Jim Sutherland, Lynne Corley and Arthur Watts. Our thanks to them all. We have several other volunteers who work on S.D.A.'s behalf in the community; visiting people, taking them out to the shops or to the park, acting as escorts, etc. There are also numerous one-off requests which SDA volunteers are able to meet; from helping people move to repairing kettles. So, thanks go to Patrick Clifford, Lynnette Green, Linda Morgan, Julia Penfound, Gwen Redmayne, Barbara Sanger, Vallabhoas

Tanna, John Taylor; Aubrey Wilson and Ben Ward for their offers of help in the future.

Other organisations who have helped S.D.A. with volunteers are the Burnbake Trust, Black Womens Action Group, Dulwich Volunteers Bureau, East Dulwich Christian Fellowship, Family Welfare Association and Springboard, in particular. We are grateful to them for their support.

Gwen Redmayne



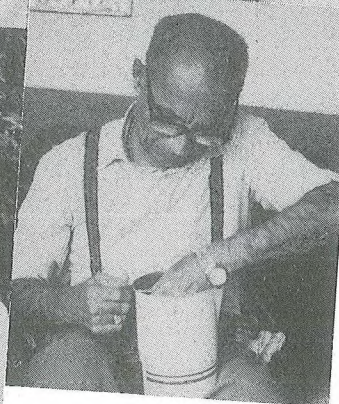
Pamela Ezikpe



Lynnette Green



Rosalyn Porter



Vallabhoas Tanna



Testing the prototype of the new London taxicab.

In 1983 the Greater London Council set up the **TAXI CARD SCHEME** with the pilot project taking place in Southwark with the Southwark Disablement Association being responsible for the initial applications. The pilot scheme was extended to four other London boroughs and soon went London-wide. We were delighted that the taxi pass users formed a Users Committee and have continued to meet regularly with representatives from the Greater London Council. They are all disabled people who work voluntarily to help other users with problems or queries. Our Director acts as an advisor to the committee which is self-servicing. They have been involved in pressurising for the scheme to be funded after the abolition of the Greater London Council and we are pleased with the success of their campaign.

SOUTHWARK DIAL-A-RIDE had its official launch in July 1985 and has proved its value many times over to people with disabilities who have no other means of transport. We are proud that the Southwark Disablement Association initiated this successful project until it became an independent body in 1984. We were grateful to the Greater London Council for the initial funding of the scheme and pleased that it has continued to have financial support from London Regional Transport. We recognise that demand exceeds the supply with only three vehicles to serve the

needs of Southwark's disabled citizens.

The Southwark Disablement Association has been involved in discussions to set up a **COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PROJECT** in Southwark which has been "on and off" during the past three years. The scheme was turned down for an Urban Aid grant in 1985 but if finance from other sources is forthcoming the scheme could still be viable. The purpose of the project is to co-ordinate the use of vehicles provided by member groups for use by community groups in Southwark. Groups who already have their own vehicles would be asked to make them available to groups who have none, for a small fee. The project would provide a base and staff to maintain the vehicles and hopes to purchase a vehicle.

We have also been consulted about the **MOBILITY BUS**. London Regional Transport are looking at the possibility of operating on a route through Southwark. The Mobility Bus is a single deck Red Arrow bus which has had the front seats removed and a wheelchair lift fitted at the side door. The vehicle will carry up to five people in wheelchairs and 22 passengers seated. The bus will run a normal route through the borough although it may be able to deviate slightly from the route to drop people nearer their homes. It is not a door-to-door service. It is hoped that the first bus will be running in 1987.

The Southwark Disablement Association has always recognised that disabled people and their carers need to have proper support.

We were on the steering group formed to set up the *SOUTHWARK CROSSROADS CARE ATTENDANT SCHEME* and have been involved ever since. The *SOUTHWARK ALARM SCHEME* provides special alarms to elderly and disabled people prone to sudden medical emergencies which enables them to summon assistance. Southwark Disablement Association has been involved on the management committee for five years with our Director being Chairman since 1982. *THE ASSOCIATION OF CARERS* obtained a grant from Southwark Council in 1983 to employ a research worker, Sharon Bonny, who produced an excellent report called, "Who Cares in Southwark". Our Director was part of the steering group for the project and has continued our support to the Southwark Branch of the Association.

INDEPENDENT LIVING

A group was set up by the Southwark Disablement Association in January 1984 to work towards providing training and housing for people with disabilities who want to live independently in the community. It was recognised that many severely disabled people would need long term support. The group disbanded in November 1985 when funding was not forthcoming to set up the scheme. The Southwark Disablement Association hopes to take a new initiative soon.

We were pleased that the Council set up last year a *HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WORKING PARTY* to look into the provision of housing for people with disabilities and the Southwark Disablement Association has been represented on this by Steven Thoms and Sarah Oldfield, both people with disabilities.

The official opening of Dial-a-Ride.



ACCESS

The International Year of Disabled People in 1981 saw the start of many projects to make life easier for people with disabilities to move around in their local environment. Several access projects were completed, notably the Town Hall wheelchair entrance. After 1981 some of the impetus seemed to be lost. Greater awareness of the access problems that face people with disabilities was needed and the Southwark Disablement Association has been very involved in consultations with the council.

The Southwark Disablement Association has been involved in the "Pedestrian Rights Campaign" where council officers have attended meetings to talk about the state of pavements and roadways and to effect some improvements. Our Leisure and Access Worker is a member of the

Southwark Council's Road Safety Committee. We have been able to advise the council and other organisations about access in and around buildings, offices, the new Leisure Centre and Southwark Libraries, being a member of the Southwark Library Working Party on Facilities for Disabled People.

We will be working on the production of an Access Guide to Southwark and on the setting up of two access committees to look at:

- 1 Buildings and,
- 2 Roads and pavements. We would like a representative from Southwark Disablement Association to be co-opted on to the council's planning committee.

SPORTS AND LEISURE

In 1981 our Director wrote a paper which illustrated the sports facilities that were available and showed the need for more to be provided with appropriate helpers. Several meetings were held and visits to various venues were made. As a result the only sports and leisure club — The Southwark Phoenix — moved from the Aylesbury Day Centre to Southwark Institute in Goodrich Road where a wider variety of activities could take place. The Riding for the Disabled class at Knightsbridge Barracks continued but fishing commenced at Surrey Docks and later transferred to Burgess Park and archery began at the Flaxman Centre.

Bowls on Peckham Rye have taken place during the summer. This year, bowls has been able to transfer indoors to the new Peckham Leisure Centre. After a lot of discussion with the council a swimming class began in Rotherhithe Baths, but this has had to stop owing to the collapse of the ceiling at the baths.

Two badminton sessions, run by our Sports and Leisure Worker are held each week; one at Blackfriars Work Settlement on Wednesday afternoons and one at the Queens Road Centre on Friday afternoons. It is hoped to increase the number of sessions in the coming year.

The Southwark Athletic Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday evening in Southwark Park and is open to people with disabilities. We were able in 1983, through the good co-operation we received from the Southwark Road Safety Department and the Aylesbury Day Centre to run the Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents Wheelchair Proficiency Scheme, and several bronze and silver awards were presented to the competitors. Most disabled people had never had the opportunity to participate in sports activities and a lot of encouragement has been needed. A lot more people are needed to come forward to participate in the many activities now available, and a lot more helpers are needed to make them possible, particularly escorts for the ambulances. The Southwark Disablement Association hopes to set up a sports committee made up of disabled represent-



Stephen Thoms

atives of the various sports clubs in Southwark. This will mean that they will control the running of their own club and hopefully will make contacts with other clubs. Self defence classes for people with disabilities, outdoor archery, a shooting range that could be used throughout the year, a basket ball team are all projects our Sports and Leisure Worker is involved in forming at the moment.

Southwark Disablement Association particularly wants to encourage people with disabilities to participate and learn the skills of their chosen sport so eventually disabled and ablebodied sports people can be integrated.

In 1986 our Sports and Leisure Worker was renamed Leisure and Access Worker to reflect the two aspects of his work. Although employed by Southwark Disablement Association he is now based in the new Leisure and Recreation Department in the Walworth Road which enables him to have continuous contact with all the staff whose job it is to organise events in the borough and advise on access for people with disabilities. He is also a member of the Southwark Sports Advisory Council Committee which is made up of representatives of sports clubs in the borough and aims to promote sports and leisure activities.

FURTHERING THE INTERESTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Southwark Disablement Association has established itself as an organisation with a wide knowledge of matters concerning people with disabilities. This has been gained largely through our close contact with disabled people and by involving them, wherever possible, in issues and decisions which concern them. The Southwark Disablement Association is regularly consulted by many groups and organisations for information and help. Some of these have already been mentioned under Leisure and Access but others have included the Women's Equality Unit and researchers at Kings College Hospital, the Association of Carers, and the Stockwell Press on books and papers they have prepared. The South London Handbook, a directory of organisations and information, was produced and published by the Stockwell Press and contains a lot of information given by the Southwark Disablement Association. The Health Authorities have consulted us on their leaflets on services for physically handicapped people and Southwark Council asked us for contributions to their policies and programmes document for disabled people.

This is a very important part of our work and we are pleased that people with disabilities are joining together to

represent their own views. The Taxi Card Users Committee and Dial-A-Ride both have management committees composed mainly of people with disabilities. The Southwark Disablement Action Group is composed entirely of people with disabilities, having formed in August 1985 to discuss the Social Security Bill. It has continued to meet regularly with Helen our Advice Worker acting as advisor, and has lobbied MPs and written to Peers in the House of Lords about the Bill's effect on disabled people.

Closer to home, they have met with the Director of Social Services to discuss Social Services provision for people with disabilities. The group is working towards increased consultation with and a greater involvement by disabled people in the planning of services and has been consulted by council departments and groups in the voluntary sector. The group is self-servicing and welcomes new members.

Our sub-committee on employment and training was disbanded in 1985 due to lack of involvement by people with disabilities and this might be an issue to be taken up again in the future.

WIDER INVOLVEMENT

Besides working in the office, the staff, together with committee members, have been involved in a wide range of other statutory and voluntary organisations in the borough. We see this as a valuable link with other services and a way of improving facilities for disabled people. Looking back, the Southwark Disablement organisation has been represented on the Aylesbury Day Care Development Group, the Southwark Council Equality of Opportunities Study Group, the Executive Committee of the Southwark Council for Voluntary Service, the Southwark Council Voluntary Services Volunteer Organisers Forum, the Southwark Dock-

lands Group, the Southwark Enterprise for Employment of Disabled People, the Lewisham and North Southwark Health Authority Working Party on services for the physically handicapped, the Greater London Council's steering committee of sports provision for the disabled and GLC working groups on transport, leisure and housing, the Southwark Council Community Development Forum and Courages Advisory Group.

Currently, apart from those organisations already mentioned elsewhere in the report, we are members of the Southwark Social Services Departmental Planning Group for

the Physically Handicapped and have regular meetings with the Social Services Transport Department; the Nunhead Forum; the Southwark Council for Voluntary Service Volunteer Bureau Advisory Committee; the Southwark Car Drivers Pool steering group; the Citizens Advocacy Project; Southwark Citizens Advice Bureau management committee; Southwark Rights Umbrella Group; Forward Planning Group; Southwark Right to Fuel; the Blackfriars Settlement Work Centre project committee; Age Concern management committee; a planning group to set up a respite care house in North Southwark; the Housing Interest Group; Peckham Black Womens Group; the Southwark Law Project management committee and the Southwark Council for Voluntary Services Equal Opportunity committee.

Southwark Disablement Association committee members are encouraged to stand for election to other organisations on our behalf.

Josie Reilly is a member of the Walworth Pensioners

Project management committee and the Southwark Pensioners Action Group and Mary Reardon attends Southwark Council Pensioners Forum meetings for us and went, representing Southwark Disablement Association, with the Walworth Pensioners Project on their study trip abroad to see facilities in France, Germany and Holland. Their report will be launched in August 1986. Our Chairman, Mike Pearson, has been our representative on the Greater London Council's Consortium on Disability and in the summer of 1986 was elected to the Greater London Association for Disabled People's Executive Committee. Phyllis Sheere has been a governor of the Southwark Institute and representative to the Greater London Association for Disabled People and attended the Southwark Council for Voluntary Services Voluntary Sector Working Group on conditions of grant aid. Marlene Aldrich represents Southwark Disablement Association on the Southwark Women's Centre Co-ordinating Committee.

Testing British Rail's improved facilities for people with disabilities.



WHAT OF THE FUTURE

The Southwark Disablement Association will press ahead with new initiatives. We have many plans awaiting fruition and many other ideas we are beginning to put into operation. The provision of training is one. We have arranged a disability awareness course for the Southwark Libraries Department and we are in the process of arranging another one for a local youth club. These courses, through practical exercises and discussion, aim to make people more aware of their attitudes to disability and some of the difficulties people with disabilities experience. Disabled people are fully involved in giving this training, planning and leading the various workshops.

We hope to provide other training in benefits too. Combined with this we are planning to produce fact sheets and leaflets on various subjects of practical interest such as holidays to people with disabilities and their carers.

We have been part of the client group looking at the future use of the Camberwell Resettlement Unit and ways in which it can be occupied by community groups. We have put forward a proposal to use part of it as a social centre for people with disabilities where they would be fully involved in its running and organising activities. Its aim would be to provide independent living by building people's confidence with people coming to take part in particular activities to learn specific skills. It would build up a bank of specialised knowledge.

We are hopeful of obtaining some transport of our own which would greatly increase the service we can

provide. Our volunteers are in great demand and we will be mounting a recruitment campaign for more.

The sports committee and the access committee are two new groups which will be run by people with disabilities with the clear intention of making their needs known and informing those who need to know what improvements need to be made. Other consumer groups are in the pipeline.

Increasing our work with ethnic minorities in the borough is another aim for the coming year. We have had contact with some black groups and representatives of the Vietnamese community and people from ethnic minorities regularly seek the help of our Advice Workers. However, we need to do more to identify the special needs of disabled people from ethnic minority groups and to monitor our work with them to assess whether we are providing the service they need. We particularly want to increase participation in our general activities and on our committee. We are able to provide translators and will be prepared to have our leaflets printed in other languages.

Influencing policy at local and national levels is another aspect of work which we feel is important and one in which local disabled people can take the lead. At present our Chairman is an observer to the Social Services Committee and our Leisure and Access Worker is an observer to the Community Affairs Committee. We hope that we can be represented at more council committees where decisions are made. People with disabilities need to be seen and heard.

A CLOSING WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

This very comprehensive report, I hope, shows how the Southwark Disablement Association has expanded and developed since I became the first member of staff in September 1981 and entered an empty Room 48. It had no furniture and no people — a very different story from today where staff, volunteers and clients all crowd together with the furniture, equipment and stationery needed to run a very busy office. We were grateful, two years ago, to obtain a second room in the centre which serves as my office and a small meetings room, houses more equipment and provides a desk for our Leisure and Access worker and the Taxi Card Users Association. However, the message is quite clear. The Southwark Disablement Association has achieved a good deal in the five years of its existence, but there is much more to be done. To fulfill all our plans two vital resources have to be given to us; the assurance of long term financial support and larger premises. Two rooms are not enough for an association with the workload that we carry. We need too the continuing support of our members and people with disabilities in the borough. We look forward to many more years of working with you all to ensure that *disability is indeed no handicap*.



Mary Marshall

The year began with our finances in a rather precarious situation and we were fortunate to get a one-off grant from Southwark to help out. During the past months we have seen some increases in our income thanks to increased membership, donations and our fund-raising activities and we appreciate all your help and support. We were delighted that the Council decided to finance an additional Advice Worker and then, on the demise of the G.L.C. to continue

the funding of our Sports & Leisure Worker. We consider this a vote of confidence in all the activities you can read about elsewhere in this Annual Report and look forward with hope — I would like to say confidence — that our funding will be continued to enable us to carry on and extend our work to improve the quality of life for the disabled people in Southwark.

SOUTHWARK DISABLEMENT ASSOCIATION BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 1986

	NOTES	£	1985 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash & Bank Balances	2	6412	9812
LESS CREDITORS		157	241
NET ASSETS		£6225	£9571
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Funds	3	£6255	£9571

OFFICERS APPROVAL

We approve these Accounts and confirm that we have made available all the relevant books and records for their preparation.

Michael Pearson
CHAIR PERSON

Phyllis Sheere
TREASURER (HONORARY)

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We confirm that the accounts as set out on pages 1 to 3 gives a full and fair view of the transactions of the Southwark Disablement Association as disclosed by the books and records, information and explanations supplied to us.

200/202 Rye Lane
London SE15

CHRISTIE BUCHANAN & CO
Chartered Accountants

September 1986

SOUTHWARK DISABLEMENT ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1986

	GENERAL ACTIVITIES	GO AHEAD COMMITTEE	SPORTS & LEISURE	DIAL- A-RIDE	1986 TOTAL	1985 TOTAL
INCOME						
GRANTS RECEIVED						
London Borough of Southwark	7963			1630	9593	5084
Greater London Council			11300	36699	47999	18711
Committee Affairs (Publication grant)						3500
	7963		11300	38329	57592	27295
OTHER INCOME (note 4)	1902	634		1242	3778	1564
	9865	634	11300	39571	61370	28859
LESS EXPENDITURES						
Salary			9169	32804	41793	9186
Employers National Insurance			936	3457	4393	1017
Grants & Donations	807				807	—
Ambulance running costs				1624	1624	—
Meetings, courses, seminars & functions	339	1101			1440	582
Subscriptions & Publications	856		40		896	5601
Staff Training Expenses				626	626	—
Office equipment	220			2326	2546	1470
Accommodation costs				514	514	390
Insurances	422				422	694
Telephone	1047		276	472	1795	1158
Postage	725			166	891	775
Printing & Stationery	1115		36	557	1708	1573
Advertising	391			730	1121	1327
Travelling Expenses	463		298	58	819	1582
Bank Charges	9				9	14
Accountancy	161			57	218	241
Miscellaneous Expenses	174			185	359	146
Amenity Expenses	96				96	180
	6825	1101	10755	43576	62257	25936
	3040	(467)	545	(4005)	(887)	2923

SOUTHWARK DISABLEMENT ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1986

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- These Accounts have been prepared on a Cash Received Basis under the Historic Cost Convention.
- Office Furniture and Equipment are charged to the Income and Expenditure Account in the year of purchase.
- In addition to grants received from the London Borough of Southwark, payments have been discharged directly by them in respect of the Association employers, namely a Director, Advice Worker and Part Time Secretary, which are not shown in these Accounts.

2. CASH AND BANK BALANCES

	GENERAL ACTIVITIES	GO AHEAD COMMITTEE	SPORTS & LEISURE	DIAL- A-RIDE	1986 TOTAL	1985 TOTAL
Lloyds Bank Deposit A/C	1969				1969	330
Lloyds Bank Current A/C	2387				2387	714
National Westminster Bank Current A/C		NIL			NIL	467
Lloyds Bank Current A/C			2036	—	2036	8081
Cash in Hand	20	—	—	—	20	220
	4376	NIL	2036	—	6412	9812

3. ACCUMULATED FUNDS

Balance at 1.4.85 Brt/Fwd	923	467	1747	6434	9571	6848
Surplus (Deficit) for Year	3040	(467)	545	(4005)	(887)	2923
	3963	—	2292	2429	8684	9571
Less Settlement to Dial-A-Ride				(2429)	(2429)	—
Balance at 31.7.86 C/Fwd	3963	—	2292	—	6255	9571

4. OTHER INCOME

Subscriptions & Affiliation Fees	1020				1020	487
Donations, Fund Raising Wheelchair	11				11	98
Miscellaneous Income	810	634		1242	2695	565
London Taxi Drivers Association	—	—	—	—	—	100
Bank Interest Received	52	—	—	—	52	314
	1902	634	—	1242	3778	1564

5. DIAL-A-RIDE

These Accounts incorporate the activities of Dial-A-Ride up to the end of August 1985. Dial-A-Ride continues to operate as an independent organisation.

**SOUTHWARK
DISABLEMENT
ASSOCIATION**

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